

PROPOSALS FOR ADOPT-A-STREAM PROGRAM STREAM TEAM SMALL GRANTS

The Adopt-A-Stream Program of Riverways Program, MA Dept. of Fish and Game, is soliciting project proposals for Stream Team Implementation Awards for stream restoration and advocacy work. Work under these proposals will need to be completed by June 30, 2007.

HOW MUCH? The Adopt-A-Stream Program anticipates awarding a total of \$10,000. Priority will be given to proposals for \$1,000 - \$2,500 and for projects where partnerships are created. **This program is offered on a reimbursement for services basis.**

PROPOSAL DEADLINE: The Request for Proposals (RFP) will be released in November. Full proposals must be received by Riverways Program by 2 PM on December 11, 2006. Groups are encouraged to contact the Adopt-A-Stream Program/Riverways staff with questions. (See contact information below.)

OVERVIEW: The Adopt-A-Stream Program works with local residents, watershed associations and municipal boards to establish Stream Teams- groups of citizens, town officials, sportsmen, anglers, garden club members and civic associations- to protect and restore local streams. Stream Teams throughout the Commonwealth work to conduct visual surveys of the river using Adopt-A-Stream data sheets and protocols, create Action Plans and work together to implement projects on behalf of streams.

The Stream Team Implementation Awards can be used by existing Stream Teams or local river groups to implement projects or by local watershed associations or municipal boards to help start new Stream Teams. In areas where Stream Teams are well established, priority will be given to implementation projects.

Projects with Existing Stream Teams: Current Stream Teams can use the Stream Team Implementation Awards to implement projects from their Action Plan or to advance other proposals that clearly benefit riverine resources. The Adopt-A-Stream Program will be available to work with these Stream Teams to provide additional technical assistance on their projects. Examples of projects are available on our website www.massriverways.org

New Stream Teams: For groups that would like to start a new Stream Team, the Adopt-A-Stream Program will work directly with local organizers to plan for a Shoreline Survey, conduct a training and facilitate an Action Planning meeting. For more information on the Stream Team process and how Stream Teams can work in your community, contact the office or see the Adopt-A-Stream Program website at <http://www.massriverways.org>

WHO IS ELIGIBLE: Proposals must be submitted through a nonprofit organization with 501c3 status or a municipality (by the Conservation Commission, Planning Board, etc.), and must be directly related to Stream Teams or Stream Team work. Stream Teams are encouraged to work in partnership with their watershed associations, land trusts, Conservation Commission and other town boards.

PROJECT IDEAS: Stream Team Implementation Awards are given for projects that further watershed and stream protection. For example Stream Team Awards may be used:

- To organize Stream Teams as local stewards;
- To provide public access to and/or along river and stream corridors consistent with resource protection;
- To install projects to reduce stormwater impacts on rivers (rain gardens, etc.);
- To build or improve greenway or blueway trails;
- To conduct habitat surveys or inventories along river corridors;
- To provide public information and education about the importance of rivers and the role of citizen involvement in their protection;
- To provide public information and education about water conservation, stewardship or other best management practices for conservation.
- To provide community organizing for development or implementation of a restoration project

PROJECT TIMELINE: Work on the projects must be completed by June 30, 2007.

Please see our website for more information on the Adopt-A-Stream Program and examples of past Stream Team Implementation Awards <http://www.massriverways.org>

Stream Team Implementation Awards Proposals and Proposal Evaluation

Please note the following information is only a partial list of what is to be included and how projects will be evaluated. More information will be included in the final version of the Request for Proposals (RFP).

Proposals will need to include:

- I. Group description
- II. Project description, including: goals and specific objectives, time table, need for project in watershed and evidence of community support.
- III. Budget explaining project expenses, in-kind support (including volunteer match), etc.

Evaluation

Projects that demonstrate the greatest need as incorporated into a larger vision and goals will have the most benefit for the river and the community. Consider the following when designing your project and writing your proposal. By involving multiple partners and broadening the scope of your project, you will see a greater impact and improvement on the resource.

- The level of river restoration and/or protection that the project will provide
- The level of Stream Team and community involvement (town officials, volunteers, businesses, conservation partners, civic groups, etc.)
- The level of in-kind support and contributions through volunteers, businesses, or other local cooperation
- How the project will enhance your organization's ability to protect river resources
- How the project will generate greater community stewardship (how knowledge/products will be put to use)
- Project timeframe (can be completed by June 30, 2007)
- Project sustainability (will there be a lasting impact? Will the resources, volunteers, etc. continue beyond the June 30, 2007 completion?)
- Necessity of award funds (other funding sources are unavailable, unattainable and/or the project purpose/goals cannot be fulfilled without these funds)
- Do you have documented permission/support from partners and property owners?
- Level of experience and/or qualifications to complete the project
- Consistent with Shoreline Survey Action Plan
- Support letters from town, partners, or other organizations.

Contact information

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